

Since 1790, the Coast Guard has been protecting the lives and property of the American people on the high seas and in ports, coastal areas and waterways. To continue to do so effectively in the 21st century, we need assets that can operate in the increasingly challenging maritime security environment. Both legitimate maritime activity and potential maritime threats are on the rise. As a result, the Coast Guard's area of operations and operational tempo continue to grow significantly. However, the Coast Guard's current fleet of deepwater assets, which operates from our ports to the high seas as the front line of our nation's layered defense, are aging and technologically obsolete. These assets do not possess the speed, interoperability, sensor and communication capabilities required for more effective operations at an affordable cost. The Deepwater Program's progressive modernization, conversion, and recapitalization of these aging assets are beginning to make a difference now in transforming the Coast Guard for its 21st-century missions—creating a more ready, aware, and responsive maritime "Shield of Freedom" for America.

## INTEGRATED DEEPWATER SYSTEM



The Integrated Deepwater System (IDS) Program is a progressive modernization and recapitalization program that will transform the Coast Guard, America's "Shield of Freedom." The IDS Program is not just new ships and aircraft but an integrated approach to upgrade existing assets while transitioning to newer, more-capable platforms with improved systems for command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (C4ISR) and integrated logistics. This new "system of systems" will provide the Coast Guard with a significantly improved ability to detect, identify, and respond to all activities in the maritime arena, as well as the improved ability to intercept, engage and deter those activities that pose a direct challenge to U.S. sovereignty and security. The Coast Guard's industry partner for the Deepwater Program is Integrated Coast Guard Systems (ICGS), a joint venture between Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman.

At full implementation, the IDS will be composed of three classes of new cutters and their associated small boats, a new or upgraded fixed-wing manned aircraft fleet, modernized helicopters, and both cutter-based and land-based unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). All of these highly capable assets will be linked with state-of-the-art systems for command, control, communications computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (C4ISR), and be supported by integrated logistics. The objectives for the IDS are to improve operational performance while managing total ownership costs. Recognizing the dynamic nature of Coast Guard operations, the Deepwater's revised post-9/11 implementation plan provides for more capable and interoperable assets suitable for today's more challenging mission requirements.

More than 15 major Deepwater system acquisitions are underway as part of the \$24-billion, 25-year effort. Among the program's many milestones, two National Security Cutters (NSCs) are under construction, a third is

approved, and the President's fiscal year 2007 budget funds a fourth. The service now will build one NSC per year through fiscal 2011, with construction of the first Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC) to follow. Eight 123' (110' conversion) patrol boats have been delivered with eight Short Range Prosecutor (SRPs). The design and of the Fast Response Cutter (FRC) also has been advanced from its original schedule.

Similar progress is reflected in Deepwater's aviation domain with the upgrading and re-engining of HH-65 helicopters—the Coast Guard's top priority for legacy aviation assets. A total of 18 re-engined and more-capable HH-65Cs were delivered by the end of 2005. Three performed superbly in New Orleans in September during Hurricane Katrina relief operations, where they saved the lives of more than 300 people. Each month, additional helicopters of the more reliable "Charlie" model are being delivered to Coast Guard air stations. Six more powerful HC-130J long-range search aircraft are being missionized

under the Deepwater Program, and the first new HC-235A medium-range surveillance maritime patrol aircraft was rolled out in March 2006.

Deepwater Program initiatives for C4ISR systems have already generated significant results improving situational awareness and operational effectiveness—a true force multiplier for today's assets. During 2005, the last of 39 legacy cutters received its first Deepwater C4ISR upgrade to begin the transition to a net-centric force that is more capable of receiving and fusing data and information in near-real time. The second phase of C4ISR modernization is now underway to increase intelligence-data communications to permit more effective at-sea intercepts and interdictions, as well as improved Maritime Domain Awareness.

The Deepwater Program's fiscal year 2006 appropriation of \$933.1 million sustains momentum implementing the revised post-9/11 plan to provide the Coast Guard with the more capable assets necessary to execute the new National Strategy for Maritime Security, to improve security in ports and coastal areas, and to perform all enduring core missions. The budget advances Deepwater's acquisition of more capable assets while sustaining and modernizing legacy cutters and aircraft to increase their useful service life—contributing to top Coast Guard's budget priorities to build a more ready, aware, and responsive Service.

The Deepwater Program also makes important contributions to National Fleet Policy goals that call for the Navy and the Coast Guard to plan, acquire, and maintain forces that support and complement each service's roles and missions. This joint, interoperable, and complementary maritime force will establish the numerical sufficiency required for effective global operations and foster effective regional international partnerships in order to achieve global maritime domain awareness and security in today's era of globalization.

Looking to the future, the Deepwater Program will make important contributions to the goals of the Coast Guards new *Maritime Sentinel* strategy for combating maritime terrorism.

More capable and interoperable Deepwater platforms and systems will enable the Coast Guard to prevent, protect, and respond through improved maritime domain awareness—beginning in our ports, waterways, and coastal areas as we press out our maritime borders to seaward to create an effective Maritime Security Regime. Deepwater will position the Coast Guard to act with greater certainty to reduce risk in the complex, uncertain maritime environment—to be a more ready, responsive, and aware shield of freedom for the United States.



# Homeland Security

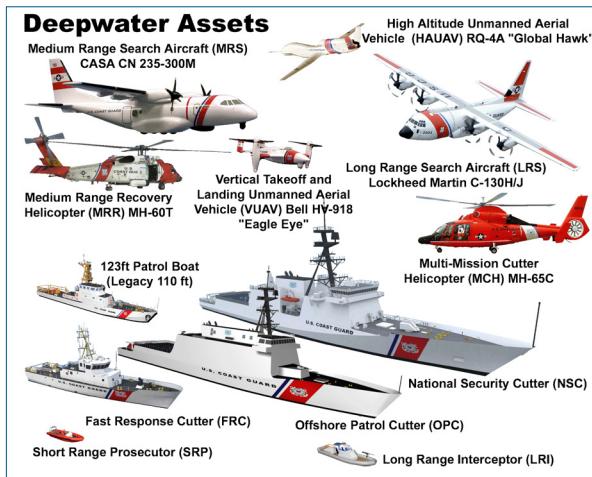
Deepwater missions occur in ports, waterways, coastal areas, and extend seaward to anywhere the Coast Guard needs to take appropriate maritime action. These missions are characterized as requiring powerful C4ISR capabilities, extended on-scene presence, any mission using Coast Guard aviation assets or requiring significant prosecution power. The Coast Guard's deepwater ships and aircraft comprise the first line of the Service's layered defense against threats to America's maritime homeland security. The Coast Guard and the IDS Program are key contributors to each of the three objectives of the *National Strategy for Maritime Security*:

- Preserving the freedom of the seas;
- Facilitating and defending commerce; and
- Facilitating the movement of desirable goods and people across our borders, while screening out dangerous people and materials.

The Coast Guard's IDS assets will improve border and transportation security, increase interoperability with the Navy and other agencies, improve intergovernmental law-enforcement response and coordination, and guard critical maritime infrastructure. For this reason, the Deepwater Program is the centerpiece of the U.S. Coast Guard's transformation and its top capitol priority.

*"While the Deepwater Program necessarily invests in capabilities adequate to operate in the often-unforgiving offshore environment, it is these same capabilities that are instrumental to effective response operations in port and coastal areas as well."*

Admiral Thomas H. Collins  
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, March 2006



The Coast Guard is a military, maritime, multimission service, with a proud history as America's "Shield of Freedom." The security of America's maritime domain—including 95,000 miles of coastline and nearly 3.4 million square miles of ocean—is a vital element of America's economic prosperity and homeland security. Even before the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the Coast Guard faced an array of maritime security challenges—countering terrorist threats, rescuing mariners in distress, interdicting drug smugglers and illegal migrants, enforcing fisheries and protecting the marine environment—that posed direct threats to American safety and security. These critical missions demand forces with the capability to detect and intercept potential threats on America's maritime front lines before they reach our shores.